

THE WIZARD'S NEW POWER.
Are the Days of the Steam Engine Numbered?

From the N. Y. Journal.
Mr. Edison had tried to have a pyromagnetic dynamo made in time to exhibit to the assembled scientists, but he found it impossible to do so. His description of the machine and its theory, however, was very complete. The paper was read for Mr. Edison, who was not present, by Professor George F. Barker.

"The production of electricity directly from the combustion of coal," states the paper, "is a problem which has occupied the closest attention of the ablest inventors for years. Could the enormous latent energy in coal be turned directly into electricity, and all the products of combustion be utilized, about 90 per cent of the foot-pounds of force produced by the burning coal could be converted into motion. Now the best steam engines only use between 4 and 5 per cent of these foot pounds.

The simple production of potential difference between two wires was discovered years ago, and what was termed thermoelectricity has been made and put into general use by Thomson, Tait, Clamond and Noe. Mr. Moses G. Farmer has devoted many years to the problem, but it has been reserved for Mr. Edison to make the first thermo-electrical motor of practical commercial value. The best results produced before were only about one per cent of the energy of combustion being utilized. This was only one-fourth as well as a steam engine does.

"The principle of utilizing the variations of magnetizability of iron salts by heat, the basis of the Edison effect, is the basis of the Edison engine, which I have called a pyromagnetic motor. A description of this motor will help to understand the generator subsequently constructed.

"Suppose a permanent magnet having a bundle of small tubes made of thin iron placed between its poles and capable of rotation about an axis perpendicular to the plane of the magnet, after the fashion of an armature. Suppose, further, that by similar means, such as a blast or a draught, hot air can be made to pass through these tubes so as to raise them to redness; suppose that by a flat screen symmetrically placed across the face of this bundle of tubes, and covering one-half of them, a portion of the heated air to the tubes beneath it is prevented.

"Then it follows that if this screen be so adjusted that its ends are equidistant from the two legs of the magnet, the bundle of tubes will not rotate about the axis, since the cooler and magnetic portions of the bundle, i. e., those beneath the screen, will be repelled from the poles, and will be equally attracted on the two sides. But the screen is turned about the axis of rotation so that one of its ends is nearer one of the poles, and the other nearer the other, thereby causing the bundle to revolve, since the portion under the screen which is cooler and therefore magnetizable, is continually more strongly attracted than the other and heated portion. This twice acts through, as a pyromagnetic motor, the heat now passing through the tubes in one way as to produce a dissymmetry in the lines of force of the iron-field, the rotation being due to the effort to make the symmetrical iron-field plate in case has an action analogous to that of the commutator in an ordinary armature.

"The results thus far obtained lead to the conclusion that the economy of production of electric energy from fuel by the pyromagnetic dynamo will be at least equal to, and probably greater than that of any of the methods in present use. But the actual output of the dynamo will be less than that of an ordinary dynamo of the same weight.

"To furnish thirty sixteen-candle lights in a dwelling house would probably require a pyromagnetic generator weighing two or three tons. Since, however, the new dynamo will not interfere with using the excess of energy of the coal for warming the house itself, and since there is no attendance required to keep it running, there would seem to be almost no disadvantage in its use. Moreover, by using the regenerative principle in connection with it, great improvement may be made in its capacity, and its practical utility may very probably equal the interesting scientific principles which it embodies."

HOWELLS AND HAGGARD.
Contrasting the Power and Style of the Two Authors.

From the Chicago News.
Not content with heading the list of men and women who emaculate our literature by every book they write, Mr. W. D. Howells in the last number of *Harper's Monthly* indulges in a merry ding at H. Rider Haggard, who seems to have been guilty of actually writing books that are not commonplace. That the sneer is prompted by jealousy is apparent in every line, and it cannot but react on the writer.

The fact is, Howells is indirectly responsible for the popularity of the Haggard books in this country. The Boston writer and the school of imitators have so flooded us with commonplace and inanity, with lay-dogdom and all the rubbish of mental vivisection, that the appearance of a novelist of Haggard's kind, so full of invention, has caused the army of novel readers to rush to the other extreme, the epic story, teller, pure and simple. With all his faults, which are many, and his crudity of style, there is the elemental vigor of Homer, of Voltaire, of Gogol, or of Flaubert in the author of "King Solomon's Mines." He is audacious and broad; his knowledge of human character is wider than that of the Boston school of analysts; he is hearty and sincere and makes pretensions and shuns; he is a splendid humorist and is not a full-chested guffaw when he sees anything to laugh at. This mental brawn, so to speak, the unvarnished reading public are eager to admire, and Mr. Howells' sneers have to be based on something better than mere literary jealousy before they serve to stem the tide of popularity upon which Mr. Haggard is now riding to success.

In the current issue of the Book Mart Mr. Julian Hawthorne, one of the few contemporary writers who have not fallen victims to the effluvia of their times, compares the stand taken against the romantic school by Howells to the valiant fight made by Mrs. Partington against the Atlantic ocean. He says: "The romantic school of fiction has been in prosperous existence since the time of Homer, let us say, or for thirty centuries more or less. During the last few months or years the school of Mr. Howells has materialized itself, and it claims all truth as its province and portion. Mr. H. L. Stevenson and Mr. Rider Haggard, in obedience to everlasting planetary laws, begin to arise and submerge the coast. Mr. Howells womanlyly brands his moxy. Let us turn our eyes for a moment. What has become of Mr. Howells? Where is that party now? In the world of Bradshaw. Well, here at all events, are Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Haggard." Mr. Howells sincerely says: "No, we will not put our paper-knives and exquisite penmanship into 'Allan Quatermain' this month, nor any month, perhaps." It is little matter whether he does or not, for readers by the hundreds of thousands are bursting open the uncut leaves of Haggard's books with their fingers, so eager are they after their diet of American romanticism.

Taking Opium.
From the Boston Herald.

It is important to remember that medicines can be repeated, but, when once given, they are with great difficulty recalled. In all cases, therefore, it is far better to give too small doses than too large, and especially is this true in the case of all opiates. The question naturally suggests itself, what form of opium is the most efficacious? If all its preparations are honestly made, there is practically little, if any, difference of choice. The drug is expensive and adulteration is grievously common. Pills of opium, containing one grain each, or granules of morphia, each one-eighth of a grain, are convenient, and if coated with sugar or gelatine they change little or none by keeping. To promote sleep in short fevers, characterized by high temperature, Dover's powder, the dose of which is 10 grains, is the most commonly used. The dose of laudanum, 25 drops, can be easily graduated, and the same may be said of paregoric, which contains a caloric compound with opium. The union of these two drugs intensifies, in a measure, the action of both, and two teaspoonfuls of paregoric of standard strength and reliable manufacture, may be considered a perfectly safe dose for an adult. Whatever preparation of opium is in use, it should be clearly labelled, and laudanum especially ought to be, also, marked poison. That there is great danger of becoming dependent upon the uses of narcotics must not be forgotten. The opium habit, especially, is so easily acquired, so difficult to overcome, and entails such abject misery and utter destruction, the greatest care should be taken to avoid it. Let opiates be used if needed, but the necessity should be absolute to warrant their employment, and not a single dose is allowable after it becomes evident the cause for which they are being given is being removed.

Wooden Bridges.
From the Springfield Republican.

There is no occasion in these days of railroad development for wooden bridges, and Wednesday's disaster was only another illustration of their dangerous character. The bridge master of the road testifies before the coroner's jury that every structure built along the line has been safe at least once during the year, and that a section masters along the line, in a dry season like that just closed, have been compelled to keep the long train grass along the tracks burned close.

Do You FEEL THE HEAT?
Fesline makes washing and cleaning easy.

THE ART OF SWIMMING.
Why should It Not Be an Element in Public Education?

The late disasters and loss of life in Jamaica bay and elsewhere, says the Brooklyn Eagle, have caused parents to inquire why swimming is not taught in the private and public schools. I have heard more than one father say that the art of swimming should be known by all, as it is of more value in or on water than a similar knowledge of English grammar would be in a chance for drowning, for all the learning one might pick up in schools and colleges would not save one from going to the bottom of the sea in case of collision or capsizing if he did not know how to swim. In London during the hour of recess the school children are marched to the swimming baths, where, under the eyes of competent instructors, they are taught how to save themselves from drowning by swimming, floating, treading water and the frog movement. At first the scholars dislike this particular and most useful study, but after a while, when they gain confidence in themselves and their teachers, they take unto the water like a duck, and the art of swimming becomes a pastime instead of a task. In conversation with a prominent teacher of swimming I asked for an opinion as to the wisdom of the board of education in adopting a system of swimming teaching in or by the public schools, and was answered as follows: "All I anxious to learn to swim, for they live in a land intersected with lakes and rivers, and their love of travel and water makes it necessary for all to master the art. We can never tell beforehand when a call shall be made on us to face danger, and therefore we ought to be ready to meet the water element with confidence born of knowledge derived from good teaching. The fact of the matter is that the public schools should imitate the example set by their English cousins in amusing and instructing their pupils during the hour of recess in the swimming baths. I do not pretend to say that every school teacher should be a good swimmer and instructor of the art, for all of them have their heads crammed with other useless information, which they are supposed to transplant to the minds of the young and then, again, many of the instructors in the stereotyped mode peculiar to modern school teaching are too old to learn how to save their lives in case of danger, and therefore could not instruct in an art they know nothing about. Every parent should see to it that the children become experts in the fresh or salt water. When we think of the beneficial results of the exercise and the health-giving qualities of the water, then, it seems to me, that all, both great and small, should be taught the art. I have heard people say that any child can swim. All one has to do is to let the child get into the water, and they will instantly strike out for dear life like a dog, or any other web-footed animal. This is a mistake that is made by many parents, and it is a web-footed, and, therefore, swimming, floating, or any other exercise in deep water must be cultivated, as it does not come natural to the land. The art of swimming must be acquired, and the first thing to teach the child is to have confidence in itself."

"How is that taught?"
"By going into the water with them, take the little ones on your back and assume them in different ways. After awhile they get to like it, and having full confidence in their protector they do as they are told. The lesson is the first thing to teach, and afterward they should be instructed in the use of their arms. They should be held by putting one hand on the breast and the other on their back. This does not interfere with their arms in any way, and having full sense of security they commence to make strokes, and finding themselves successful the rest is easy. The action of the frog is neither handsome nor quick, and I disagree with some authorities who recommend it, because to me it is not desirable. Children from 5 years of age upward should be taught to propel themselves through the water with one hand only or one foot, or with both hands or feet alone. Knowledge is extremely useful in cases of cramps, for the limb that attacked can be rested, while the mate will bring the swimmer safe to the shore, where a vigorous rubbing of the muscles will make matters all right. Delicate ladies who are advised by physicians to learn the art of swimming become fatigued at first, but after awhile they can make the element subject to their will, and when once under their control the accomplishment is never forgotten. In proof of this assertion it may be said that a Miss Wright, who is a near relative of Miss Booth of *Harper's Weekly*, was taught by her father to float when a child. For many years the lady did not enter the water, and it might be supposed she would forget how to rest on the surface, but she did not, as upon a very dark night, when walking a plank from one steamboat to another on the Mississippi river, she slipped and fell into twelve feet of water. The young lady could not swim a stroke, but with great presence of mind she turned on her back and remained motionless while floating for one hour, and was rescued after a painful time on one of her friends. A number of instances of this kind, where a knowledge of floating, even by those who could not swim, saved their lives, could be related, and it can be said, without fear of successful contradiction, that if the women on the *Mystery* had known how to float, every one of them would have been saved, and there would not have been so many destitute homes to-day."

"How long will it take to make a pupil a good swimmer?"
"That depends entirely on the age of the person to whom the teacher has to deal with. A grown man and woman can be taught in four lessons to take care of themselves in water, but with children it is different. Their confidence must first be won by kindness, and after they gain faith in themselves there will be no further trouble. Grammar, geography and other necessary school exercises are given in their way, but no matter how well versed a person may be in all that makes the scholar, not a single thing learned at school will save one's life when in danger of drowning, but a thorough knowledge of swimming and floating will; therefore I repeat that the children in the public and private schools should be taught the art."

Are there any laws regulating the time for bathing?
"No person should enter the water less than an hour before or two hours after eating a hearty meal. Do not bathe while feeling fatigued or in any way chilled. The feet should never be allowed to become cold before going in to swim, for in that case one is liable to cramps. Do not stay too long in the water unless compelled."

Poker as a Fine Art.
From the New York Evening Sun.
In a lively stable on Forty-sixth street are two colored loaders. When not engaged in their duties they play poker. Last evening a hand was drawn that will ever remain green in the memory of both. A jack pot had been built up until it reached the alarming dimensions of \$2,800.

Julius was dealing and he rung in a cold cock on Nob. The latter, much to his surprise, held four queens and an ace. He looked at them for awhile until Julius impatiently asked: "Well, Neb, does you open dat jackpot?"
"No, honey, I pass."
Julius rolled up his eyes in astonishment and said: "Well, I just open him for two dollars, sah."
"You just guess I stay wid you, Julius," Julius picked up the cards and asked: "How many keards you want?"
"I done guess I'll take foah."
"All right, an' I'll done take one keerd an' bet you two dollars."

Neb picked up his cards and his eyes bulged out as he raked up \$2 and then ran his credit for a \$5 raise.
"I'll see dat, an' I'll owe you five dollars whin I rise you."
"I'll see dat five dollars an' rise you ten, an' dat's all you's credit is wort'."
"Dat's all right, I calls. What's you got?"
"I done got foah aces, Julius."
Julius rose from his chair, threw down four kings and swore at his luck. Finally he cooled down and asked: "Say, Neb, dog gone you? I just want to ask you what you done wid dem foah queens whin you laid."

"Frowed 'em away. See no fool. I ain't an' I want to ax you how you know I had dem foah queens?"

Americans in England.
From a Speech by Mr. Dewey in London.
Archimedes said that if he had a fulcrum he could move the world. I think that the fulcrum has been found in England. Directly Blaine came to use it Hawley followed. Then Sherman sent Halstead; Cameron came next, and, finally, having a small bomb in hand, I came too. I was asked at the races yesterday by a lady whether there was in America any preference for color in horses. I answered, "Most certainly; the preference is for a dark horse." And all of us here are dark horses. We are all Englished Americans, yet not a London paper has noticed our arrival! Such silence does not prevail when any even half-distinguished Englishmen visit America. They are encountered off Sandy Hook by a press boat. They are asked all about every shade of European politics, and their opinion is sought about our country before they have landed it.

He Had Wasted Time Shockingly.
From the Omaha Railway Reporter.
"Conductor," said a man, who, from his appearance, was without a doubt a clergyman, "I have a complaint to make. There are a couple of men in the rear coach playing a pool game called poker. One, I am sure, is cheating the other, who seems to have plenty of money. Won't you take some action in the matter?"
"How long they been playin'?"
"About an hour."

"An hour? Why the devil didn't you tell me sooner? Here, Jim," to the brakeman, "you take tickets while I draw back into the game. If there's money to be made out of suckers on this run, just come in."

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A TONIC AND RESTORATIVE.
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BLANKETS all over the house, on the roof excepted, enough to darken the sky, of every color, of every width, of every weight, at sensational prices.

This is a Sensational Blanket Sale!
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50 Foot Lots \$ 650.
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Terms, \$50 cash, balance monthly, or one-fourth cash, balance yearly payments. This addition is three blocks from the Grand avenue cable, one block from the Dummy line, now running to Waldo Park, and two blocks from the old fair grounds at Westport. The prices will be advanced September 1st. My carriage always ready to drive you out. Now is the time to purchase and sell on the Fall boom.

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THEY MUST AND WILL GO.
Ladies' Hand Turn Oxfords, reduced from \$1.75 to \$1.25.
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One lot Gents' Slippers, 8 styles, 90 cents.
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All summer goods proportionately reduced.
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MAGNOLIA BALM contains everything necessary to secure a Soft, Rich, Pliable Skin and Healthy, Blooming Complexion. Being a Liquid it is applied in a moment, like water and no more injurious. It instantly does away with the Burning effects of a Hot Summer Sun. Yachting parties, Boating parties and Ladies taking Walks, Rides or Out-door Exercise at any of the Seaside or Rural Resorts, will find Magnolia Balm a great comfort in abating the heat and the too many insect bites!
It is a pure LIQUID, applied in a moment to the FACE, NECK, ARMS and HANDS. Its use cannot be detected—strictly harmless and worth its weight in gold to every woman in the land to overcome the bad effects of HEAT, TAN, SUNEURN and every kind of Skin blemish! Try it once and you'll never again consent to be without it!

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Will be Built in
IDLEWILD PARK,
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IDLEWILDPARK

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The avenues are 60 and 80 feet wide and have all been graded.
The Kansas City, Independence & Park railway has laid its track on Lexington avenue, only three blocks from Idlewild Park, and trains will be running this fall.
Every lot in Idlewild Park is shaded with beautiful forest trees, adding greatly to its value. Can't you see that values must speedily increase in such an attractive addition and that if you buy lots there now at the low prices offered you will surely double your investment in a very short time? Compare the prices of Idlewild Park—an inside addition—with the prices of lots in additions way out near proposed dummy and cable lines, away from all city improvements.
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